[The defects pointed out in the existing law relating to *Jennies* and *Kudiyans* have to be removed by the Jenmi Kudiyan Bill now before the Legislative Council which contains provisions relating to *jenmibhogam*, *polichezhuttu*, commutation into money of payment in kind, etc. The Select Committee appointed by the Council will be asked to consider the points mentioned.

It is not possible to appoint members of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly on the Select Committee. But it is open to any one to place any suggestions before the Committee either through petitions or in person. Such suggestions will surely be considered by the Committee the members of which are also representatives of the people. The points now urged will be referred to the Committee for consideration in shaping the final bill.]

24. Adoption of measures for the prevention of the manufacture and sale of spurious and adulterated tea.

MR. ALBERT J. WRIGHT (*Kanan Devan Planters' Association*) said that the subject had been pressed at the 25th session of the Assembly, and that the Honorary Secretary of the Travancore Combined Planters' Association had furnished the Government with information regarding the standards of analysis set up by other Governments in India for determining genuine and adulterated or spurious tea. But it was disappointing to note that the evil of making spurious tea was going on unchecked. In reply to the representation made in the previous year, it was stated that a bill for the prevention of tea adulteration was being drafted. The member requested that the matter might be taken up for consideration at a very early date, especially when the price of tea had fallen leaving only a small margin of profit to the tea producer in the State. In conclusion, the member requested that no further time should be lost in dealing with this most precious trade and in affording to the tea producing industry in the State the protection that it justly deserved.

DEWAN'S REPLY:—Mr. Wright, since you brought up this subject in the Assembly last year and since the reply given then to the effect that some action would be taken on your representation, something has been done. A bill, relating to the prevention of manufacture and sale of spurious and adulterated food products, has already been drafted by the Law Officer to Government and will shortly be introduced in the Legislative Council. Besides that, another bill known as the Merchandise Marks Bill has also been drafted, which has some effect on tea. These bills have been drafted by the Law Officer of the State, and after the Government consider them, they will have to be introduced into the Legislative Council and passed. I said all this to show that Government have not forgotten what they said at the last Assembly. They have been at work and the matter has advanced a few stages, so that, we may hope, before long, a bill relating to your subject will be brought before the Legislative Council at the earliest opportunity and your grievances redressed.

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